

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

a. SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
I. TERRITORIAL SEA	Mar 78	Act No. 7 of 1977 National Seas Act	12nm	Authority for Head of State to delimit territorial sea.
II. ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Mar 78	National Seas Act, 1977, Schedule 2		Delimited interim archipelagic waters.
IV. CONTINENTAL SHELF	Mar 78	Continental Shelf Act, No. 5 of 1977 (Continental Shelf Act of 1974, amended)	1958 DEF	
V. FISHING ZONE/EEZ	1974	Fisheries Act, 1974	12nm	Exclusive fishing zone.
	Mar 78	National Seas Act, 1977	200nm	Fishing zone: Proclamation delimited "offshore seas" pending agreements on limits with other states.
	Mar 78	Declaration of Fishing Zone & Offshore Seas Proclamation 1978		"Offshore Seas" (with certain exceptions) declared to be exclusive fishing zone; licensing requirements imposed.
VI. ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION	1979	Dumping of Waste at Sea Act, 1979		Implemented the London Dumping Convention, 1972.
VII. MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Nov 74	Agreement		Territorial sea boundary agreement with Indonesia (Arafura Sea) EIF.
	Dec 78	Agreement		Maritime boundary agreement with Australia signed.
	Jul 82	Agreement		Continental shelf boundary agreement with Indonesia (Pacific Ocean) EIF.
	Feb 85	Agreement		Maritime boundary agreement with Australia EIF.
	Jan 89	Agreement		Agreement with Solomon Islands signed.
VIII. LOS CONVENTION	Dec 82			Signed.
	Jan 97			Party to Convention and Part XI Agreement.

b. DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

1. STRAIGHT BASELINES

A. LEGISLATION. Following is the text of Schedule 2, Section 9(2), of the National Seas Act of 1977:

SCHEDULE 2
Interim Delimitation of Archipelagic Waters

PART 1.

The Principal Archipelago

A line commencing at the southernmost point of the land boundary with Indonesia and following that boundary to its northernmost point and then following the geodesic lines successively linking the outermost low water points of the following land areas, namely:

- (a) Wuvulu Island;
- (b) Aua Island;
- (c) Manu Island;
- (d) Palitolla Island (Pellelehu Group);
- (e) Heina Islands;
- (f) Sae Islands;
- (g) Kaniat Islands;
- (h) Marengan Island;
- (i) Ahet Island;
- (j) Ponam Island;
- (k) Andra Island;
- (l) Hapinbuch Island;
- (m) Hus Island;
- (n) Onpeta Island;
- (o) Mandrindr Island;
- (p) Pityilu Island;
- (q) Hauwei Island;
- (r) Ndrilo Island;
- (s) Koruniat Island;
- (t) Los Negros Island;
- (u) Pak Island;
- (v) Tong Island;
- (w) Towi Island;
- (x) Putuli Island
- (y) Mbatmanda Island;
- (z) Mussau Island;
- (za) Emirau Island;
- (zb) Elomusao Island;
- (zc) Enus Island;
- (zd) Simberi Island;
- (ze) Mahur Island;
- (zf) Boang Island;
- (zg) Malum Islands;
- (zh) Southern Nuguria Islands;
- (zi) Kilinailau Islands;
- (zj) Anusagaio Island;
- (zk) Islands and low water points around the south east and south coast of Bougainville to Kabukeai Island;
- (zl) Motupena Point;
- (zm) Puruata Island;
- (zn) Islands and low water points along the northwest coast of Bougainville to Cape Rungnoum;
- (zo) Cape St. George (New Ireland);
- (zp) Cape Orford (New Britain);
- (zq) Islands and low water points along the south coast of New Britain to Kauptimeti Island;
- (zr) Tami Island;
- (zs) Mitre Rock;
- (zt) Cape Nelson;
- (zu) Kanapu Island;
- (zv) Gwadarab Island;
- (zw) Kuaniagal Island;
- (zx) Simlindon Island;
- (zy) Kadai Island;
- (zz) Bomatu Point (Kiriwina Island);
- (zza) Iwa Island;

(zzb) Dugumenu Island;
 (zzc) Cam Point (Madau Island);
 (zzd) Woodlark Island;
 (zze) Cannac Island;
 (zzf) Wabomat Island;
 (zzg) Budelun Island;
 (zzh) Bukulan Island;
 (zzi) Oburak Island;
 (zzj) Tokona Island;
 (zzk) Cape Henry (Misima Island);
 (zzl) Renard Islands;
 (zzm) Rossel Island;
 (zzn) Loa Boloba Island;
 (zzo) Tagula Island;
 (zzp) Duchateau Island;
 (zzq) Pana Boba Island;
 (zzr) Montemont Island;
 (zzs) Pana Waipona Island;
 (zzt) Punawan Island;
 (zzu) Duperre Islets;
 (zzv) Lejeune Island;
 (zzw) Long Reef Island;
 (zzx) Sable Island;
 (zzy) Quessant Island;
 (zzz) Steuers Island;
 (zzza) Dumoulin Island;
 (zzzb) Harikoia Island;
 (zzzc) Brumer Island;
 (zzzd) Baibesiga Island;
 (zzze) Suau Island;
 (zzzf) the southern coast of the island of New Guinea (in a westerly direction to the point of commencement).

c. MARITIME BOUNDARIES

TERRITORIAL SEA/CONTINENTAL SHELF BOUNDARY: AUSTRALIA AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA-INDONESIA

ANALYSIS. The following comments are extracted from Limits in the Seas, No. 87, "Territorial Sea and Continental Shelf Boundaries: Australia and Papua New Guinea-Indonesia," August 20, 1979:

As a consequence of a series of three agreements, the Governments of Australia and Papua New Guinea, on the one hand, and Indonesia, on the other, have delimited territorial sea and continental shelf boundaries between the respective states. The agreements create, north of the island of New Guinea, a single-segment boundary extending northward from the shore for a distance of approximately 27 miles. The boundary terminates in water depths approaching 1500 fathoms (2,743 meters). In the south, the boundary extends along the western reaches of the Torres Strait and the Arafura Sea and stops near the limits of the former portuguese territory of Timo. After the Timor gap, an area currently undelimited, the maritime boundary resumes and is delimited southwestward through the Timor Sea.

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On December 18, 1978, Papua New Guinea and Australia signed a treaty at Sydney concerning sovereignty and maritime boundaries in the area between the two countries, including the area known as Torres Strait, and related matters.

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The boundary between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, in the Pacific Ocean north of the Island of New Guinea, extends nearly due north from the coastal terminus of the land boundary to a point approximately 27 miles seaward. Because both states claim 12-mile territorial sea breadths, the single-segment boundary serves as both a territorial sea and, in part, a continental shelf boundary. The geologic shelf north of the island, however, is very narrow; and within a few miles of the shoreline, water depths in excess of 6,000 feet (1,829 meters) are encountered. As a result, the terminus of the shelf boundary is approximately 9,000 feet (2,743 meters) of water, well beyond existing limits of exploitability.

In the south, the maritime boundaries pass through the Arafura Sea in the east and the Timor Sea in the west. The Arafura Sea extends approximately from the limit of the Torres Strait westward to the island of Timor.

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[T]he boundary between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea in the north consists of a line connecting two points, C1 - situated at 2°8'30"S. and 141°E., and C2 - situated at 2°8'30"S. and 141°1'30"E. C1 marks the terminus of the land boundary. C2, situated 27.14 miles seaward, is approximately equidistant from the main cape north of Djajapura and an unnamed cape on the New Guinea coastline. Between points C1 AND C2, the boundary is not equidistant from the respective national baselines.

In the south, the Indonesia-Papua New Guinea maritime boundary extends from point B3 through B2, B1, A1, A2, and terminates at A3. These turning points have the following coordinates:

Point	Coordinates	Dist. btwn. Points (miles)
B3	9°8'8"S., 141°1'10"E.	land terminus 17.45
B2	9°23'S., 140°52'E.	 2.89
B1	9°24'30"S., 140°49'30"E	 34.13
A1	9°52'S., 140°29'E.	 53.06
A2	10°24'S., 139°36'E.	 42.32
A3	10°50'S., 139°12'E.	
	Total	149.85

Thus, the Indonesia-Papua New Guinea territorial sea and continental shelf boundaries total 176.99 miles: 149.85 in the south and 27.14 in the north.

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The Australian sector of the Indonesian maritime boundary begins at the trijunction point A3 and extends through intermediate points to A16. The area divided by this part of the boundary has water depths of 200 meters or less.

Westward of A12 to A16, the boundary leaves the Ceram shelf and its location relates primarily to the geomorphologic provinces underlying the Arafura Sea.